

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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State Parks Lifeguard Performs Rescue at Montara State Beach

On Sunday, February 24, at approximately 1:30 p.m., California State Parks Lifeguard Tim Fellars rescued a body boarder who had become trapped on rocks due to strong rip currents at Montara State Beach. The Half Moon Bay Fire Department assisted, and the Harbor Patrol also responded.

The victim, a 23-year-old male county resident, became tired after fighting the rip current, and climbed onto rocks about 100 feet offshore at the south end of Montara SB. A rescue swimmer from Half Moon Bay Fire Department swam to the victim. Lifeguard Fellars also swam to the victim, and then swam the victim through 4-6' surf back to shore. The victim was examined for injuries by Half Moon Bay Fire Department and released.

Tim Fellars is one of two State Park Lifeguards assigned to the San Mateo Coast. The rip current at the southern end of Montara State Beach was the scene of at least one other rescue by State Parks lifeguards.

State Parks reminds oceangoers to observe the following common sense safety measures for enjoying the beach:

- Never enter the ocean without a buddy.
- Make sure you are familiar with local and existing conditions. Make sure you know how to identify rip currents and other hazards. If unfamiliar or in doubt, ask.
- Make sure you are in shape for the conditions. Local rip currents, waves, and cold water can overpower even the strongest swimmers. Be alert for changing conditions.
- Make sure you have an adequate wetsuit and other protection for our chilly local waters.
- Do not enter the water if you are fatigued or have been drinking alcohol.

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